

HEAD'S HERALD

HIGH EXPECTATIONS | HIGH ASPIRATIONS | HIGH STANDARDS | YOU WILL SUCCEED

VOLUME 17 DATE 24TH JANUARY 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are well and getting ready to brave the next of the weather challenges with Storm Eowyn. I am writing this amongst getting many weather warnings, so I hope when you have read this you are all safe and well.

I am sorry about the cancellation of the United Utilities trip and the STEM Engineering visit. These were cancelled by the providers due to the weather concerns. We will be in touch when these are due to be rearranged.

We have had a busy week and the heating is finally working in all areas of school. I am worried that I may have jinxed this, but fingers crossed there should be no more major issues.

We had a very successful Options Evening last night for Year 9 students, Parents and Carers. The attendance was excellent, but if you unfortunately could not attend please email Mr Gwinnett mgwinnett@boteler.org.uk as soon as possible as he will be following up every absence, but if you can get in touch that would be great. We appreciate there is a lot of information to digest and big decisions to make. Rest assured we will be with your child every step of the way to support and guide them. If you are worried about anything or have any questions please do get in touch. Mr Koltan is collating all the queries and then will put a document together which we will share with you as some of the queries may be relevant to you too. Just a reminder that it is Year 9 Parents' Evening on Monday 27th January. Please make sure you have made appointments.

Just a reminder that if there are any worries or concerns you have then please do not ever hesitate to get in touch and bring them to my attention. Please do not do nothing. I am always available to listen, to offer help, support, guidance and solutions where appropriate. I appreciate and understand you have your parental WhatsApp groups etc and that is great you have these networks and communities. However, sometimes you may need factual information as information can be misinterpreted just by the nature of communication, not out of anything malicious. Therefore, if you want to know something please just ask me, it really is not a problem. Communication is so important, but I cannot help if I do not know the issues. You are never bothering me as it is my duty of care both to your child and to you as our Boteler family.

Have a lovely, safe weekend.

Kind regards

Beverley Scott-Herron
Headteacher

QUALITY OF EDUCATION **CURRICULUM**

Assessment: Checking for Understanding and 'I, We, You'.

Teaching is not a one-way process. Ensuring incisive feedback for students to promote learning is a key component of successful teaching. Teachers at our school are well versed in a process called 'I, We, You' which is rooted in research. The process is outlined below:

'I': This is the delivery of key knowledge from the teacher to the student. Knowledge is delivered in a 'gradual' and 'granular' fashion, this enables all students to absorb the new information. This may be in the form of teacher talk or modelling new learning on the interactive whiteboard, a visualiser or a practical demonstration. This phase is delivered on 'teacher time' - this means pure and full attention is demanded from the students, pens down, empty hands, eyes on the teacher.

'We': The 'we' process is the most important, and, the most skilful. This requires the teacher to 'scaffold' thinking and understanding of students to a greater or lesser extent depending on how well they have processed and understood the new information. They will ascertain student understanding through a variety of questioning techniques, student modelling or further teacher demonstration amongst other strategies. Only when the vast majority have understood the new learning will the teacher move onto the next phase. This phase is also delivered on 'teacher time'.

'You': During this phase the students work independently on the task set. The task will serve to assess how well students have captured and applied their new learning. This phase is delivered on 'task time'. I.e. Heads down, pens in hand and apply your knowledge. Task time is crucial to preparing students for their Working At assessments and future exams so that they are conditioned to understand the importance of being able to focus and work in silence for an allocated period of time.

The whole process above may be repeated a number of times in a lesson depending on how much content is delivered. It may be that it is one clean process. However, successful teaching is a highly responsive process and it is likely that a number of cycles of the 'we' phase will be needed to secure new learning is embedded.

If you wish to know more about our teaching and learning processes please do not hesitate to contact me – ckinsey@boteler.org.uk

QUALITY OF EDUCATION **ASSESSMENT**

Year 9 Options

The Options process for all Year 9 students is now underway following our official Options Evening on Thursday.

Form Tutors will be issuing students hard copies of the options form during registration in two weeks' time.

Mr Koltan will be delivering an Options assembly to all of Year 9 on Wednesday 5th February recapping the key information about the Options process.

The deadline for Options forms to be completed and submitted to Form Tutors is Thursday 27th February. As Mr Koltan said in his presentation at Options Evening, this gives students approximately four weeks to think carefully about their choices and to spend time researching various careers and subject requirements.

A link to our dedicated Options section of the school website can be found here: <https://www.boteler.org.uk/options/>

KS4 Year 10 WA1 Internal Assessments: 20 – 31 January 2025

Students will be sitting their first Working At (WA) assessment of this year in all of their subjects during assessment fortnight (Monday 20 January – Friday 31 January 2025). This may take the form of a test or an assessed piece of writing/practical piece of work.

Assessment Timetable

Please review the timetable below. Dates and times of the Maths, English and Science tests have already been allocated. Teachers for the other subjects will inform their classes when they are taking place. It is important that students write these on their assessment timetable and highlight when the assessments in their subjects are taking place. Students are responsible for carrying their timetable and updating it when class teachers give out information.

For the EBacc subjects, the percentage your child achieves on the WA1 assessment will be included on the progress report that will be sent out via the Parent Portal on 21 February 2025. To gauge what this percentage means in relation to the progress your child is making, the year group average percentage will be included for comparative purposes

Combined Timetable KS4 YEAR 10 Assessments January 2025

	Date	Period 1	Room	Period 2	Room	Period 3	Room	Period 4	Room	Period 5	Room
WEEK 1	Mon 27 Jan										
	Tues 28 Jan					10Ma Green 10Ma Blue 10Ma Indigo 10En Yellow 10En Orange	R10 R7 R2 R22 R21				
	Weds 29 Jan							10En Green 10En Blue	R23 R20		
	Thurs 30 Jan			10Ma Orange 10Ma Yellow 10Ma Red	R13 R1 R3						
	Fri 31 Jan					10En Red	R20				

All subjects will be assessed in lesson time.

Write these on your timetable when your teacher tells you the date and time.

You MUST bring your pencil case containing a black pen, pencil, ruler, eraser, sharpener and scientific calculator.

BEHAVIOURS & ATTITUDES

PASTORAL

Are your emergency contacts up to date?

As part of our commitment to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all students, we would like to remind you of the importance of providing more than one contact number for your child. This requirement is in line with the *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (KCSIE) guidance and recommendations, which emphasises the need for schools to have reliable means of communication in case of emergencies.

Having multiple contact numbers is vital to ensure that we can reach a responsible adult promptly should the need arise, whether it be for a medical situation, an unforeseen incident during the school day, or any other urgent matter.

We kindly ask all parents and guardians to review and update their contact information via the Parent Arbor App. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us prioritise the safety and wellbeing of your child. Should you have any questions or need assistance updating your details, please feel free to contact the school office.

TCAT Safeguarding Review of Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School

On Wednesday 15th January, our school underwent a safeguarding review conducted by the TCAT Safeguarding Team. The purpose of this review was to provide a comprehensive snapshot of our current safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures, aligning them with UK standards. This supportive process aims to highlight areas of exemplary practice, identify quick wins or fixes, and pinpoint any gaps or areas for development.

The review adopted a holistic approach to safeguarding, considering the work of various teams across the school. It also evaluated the "Culture of Care" we have in place by allowing staff, students, and parents to share their views and experiences with the reviewer.

We are delighted to share that the experience was extremely positive, and we once again felt incredibly proud of our students and staff. A special mention must go to our Wellbeing Ambassadors, whose dedication and efforts stood out during the review.

The review placed a strong emphasis on the work we do to support mental health within our school. It was an opportunity to recognise our ongoing commitment to making mental health provision a key priority.

We look forward to receiving the full report and will share further feedback and insights with you in due course.

Thank you for your continued support as we strive to ensure the highest standards of care and safeguarding for all our students.

Standards

As we begin this new term and year, I would like to thank you for your continued support and partnership in ensuring the success and wellbeing of our students. Recently, we shared important messages in the Head's Herald about refocusing, reflecting, and resetting expectations and standards for the year ahead. This letter serves as a follow-up to reinforce some key points and outline how we can work together to achieve the highest standards for all students.

It is essential that students arrive at school every day, on time and fully prepared to learn. This includes bringing the correct equipment, wearing the correct uniform, and maintaining an appearance that complies with our school policy. These seemingly small details set the tone for a productive and respectful learning environment, and where we get this right, students are thriving.

We are committed to helping students develop their organisational skills and independence, which are crucial for their success both in school and in life. However, we cannot do this alone. Your support in ensuring that your child comes to school prepared and in compliance with our policies is vital. By working together, we can give our students the best possible chance to succeed.

I am proud to say that the vast majority of our students consistently meet or exceed our expectations. They are a credit to the school and a reflection of the values we all hold dear. We continue to celebrate and reward their efforts and achievements, recognising the positive impact they have on our school community, doing this most recently in the Rewards and Recognition year group events.

That said, there remains a small minority of students who need to make immediate improvements to meet these expectations and we are in communication with their parents/carers. Over the past weeks, we have met with all year groups to provide clear reminders of our standards, and we are committed to supporting every student in meeting them. Our behaviour policy provides a fair and transparent system to both recognise positive behaviours and address those that are not aligned with our expectations, both inside and outside of the classroom.

By maintaining high expectations and standards, we create an environment that benefits every student:

- **Maximising learning time** through disruption-free lessons, leading to better outcomes for all.
- **A safe and predictable environment** where students feel secure and ready to learn.
- **Academic success and increased life chances**, as students develop the skills, discipline, and mindset they need to succeed beyond school, meeting or exceeding their academic potential.

Your role as parents/carers is instrumental in supporting these goals. Whether it's ensuring that your child has the right uniform, equipment, and mindset each morning or reinforcing the importance of school expectations at home, your involvement makes a significant difference and we really do appreciate this.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we can ensure that every student thrives and reaches their full potential. If you have any questions or would like to discuss any of the points raised in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me – jleonard@boteler.org.uk



Huge congratulations to 194 of our students who are currently on 100% attendance since the beginning of September. This is a huge achievement and we thank you for your continued support.

What does persistent absentee mean?

If your child takes too much time off school, they will become categorised as a persistently absent (PA). For your child to become a PA at the start of the academic year, this only takes 3 instances. This equals to 10% of their overall attendance. Your child being the Persistent absentee category could lead to further interventions from the Local Authority.

Recording of an absence

Please remember to call each morning and speak with Miss Mannion regarding your child's absence. If your child is absent and you haven't let school know, this absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Please remember to keep a track of your child's attendance on the Arbor app. If you have any questions, please contact me on smannion@boteler.org.uk or 01925 636414

Year 8 HPV vaccinations

Please click on the following link to view letter from the School Immunisations Team regarding the upcoming HPV vaccinations which are being offered in school on 29th January & 5th February.

<https://bit.ly/4fKBhtu>

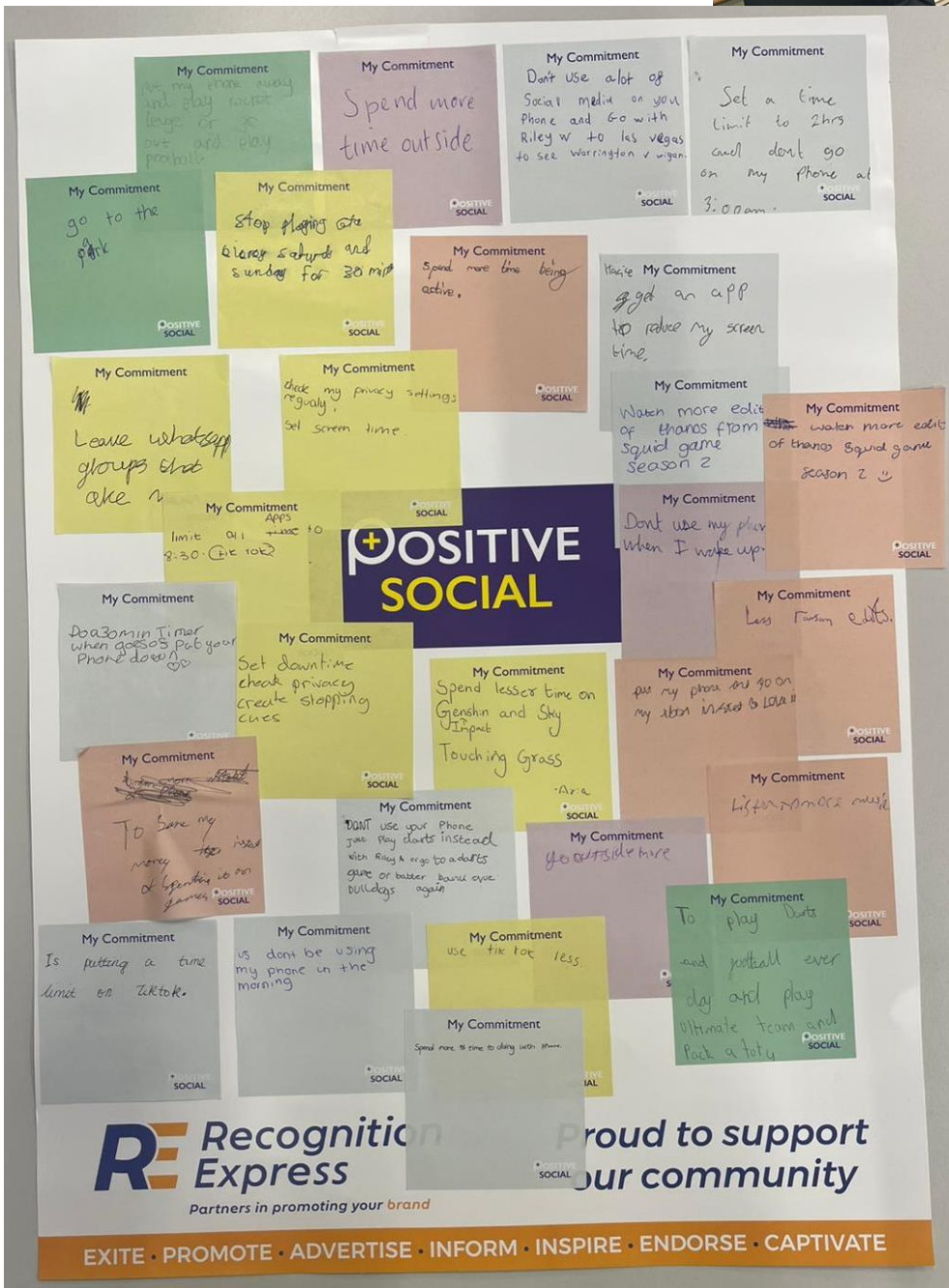
If you have any questions, please contact the School-aged Immunisation Team on 01925 946808

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Year 7 Positive Social Workshops

Year 7 have all had a workshop with Emily Simcox from "Positive Social". She delivered workshops on helping young people thrive on social media.

They covered tackling social media behaviour, social media and smartphone addiction and making good choices on social media in a really lively session.



Year 9 Vaping Workshops

The "Get to Know" team from Warrington Borough Council have been in school this week delivering vaping workshops to all Year 9 students in their PD lessons. They considered the reasons people vape and short and long term effects of vaping. If you need any more information or advice see below for helpful websites.

Where to go for HELP!

NSPCC

Warrington Youth Service
01925 443444



LiveWire

SmokeFree Warrington

shout
85258

CrimeStoppers.

Speak up. Stay safe.

0800 555 111

KOOTH.COM
FREE ONLINE ADVICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Get 2 Know
Young Persons Public Health
Team

01925 443444



WARRINGTON
Borough Council

THE
MIX

PAPYRUS
PREVENTION OF YOUNG SUICIDE

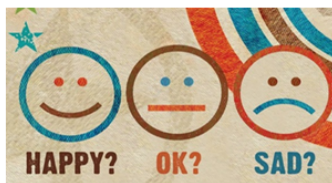


REPORT
REMOVE

Nude image of you online?
We can help take it down.

Talk to Frank
0300 1236600
www.talktofrank.com

FRANK



ChildLine
0800 1111
childline
ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME

WARRINGTON
Borough Council

Free bike safety and service for students and staff next week

Dr Bike will be in school on Tuesday next week to give all cyclists the option to get their bike checked and serviced free of charge. The checks will take place on Tuesday 28th January. Cyclists just need to come to the gazebos outside the Ball Hall and speak to the staff from Dr Bike at the beginning of the day.

Warrington Borough Council have received funding from the Department for Transport to deliver a Dr Bike (Cycle service and safety checks) at selected schools across the borough.

What is a Dr Bike? "Our experienced mechanics from Warrington Cycle Hub will service and safety check everything on your bike, from wheels, brakes, gears and tyre pressure to lights, racks, pedals, saddles and more. By the end, your bike will feel loved and cared for."

Any questions please email: lbutcher@boteler.org.uk

PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

For parents and carers of Year 9 students, a link has been sent out to confirm attendance at the **Year 9 Parents Evening on Monday 27th January (15:30 – 19:00)**. This event is key in discussing your child's progress and their subject choices for the upcoming academic year.

A reminder that our 3rd Parent Forum: Understanding the Curriculum is taking place on Thursday 13th February (18:00 – 19:00).

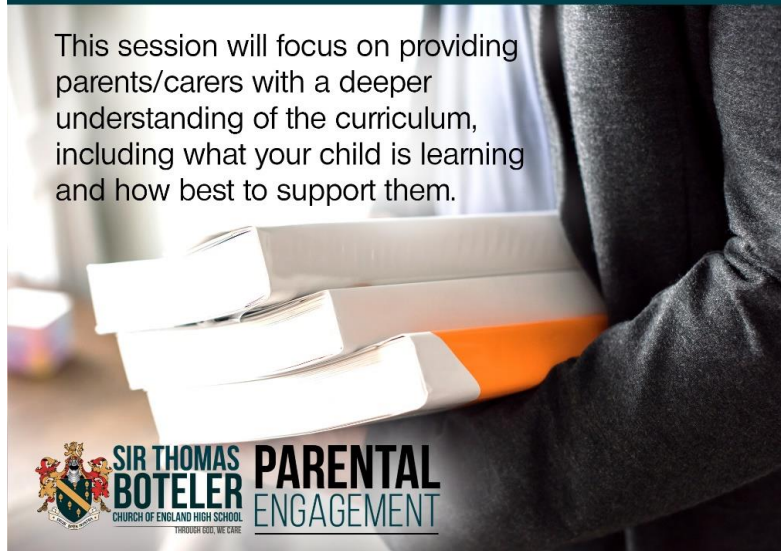
This session will focus on providing parents with a deeper understanding of the curriculum, including what your child is learning and how best to support them. Please mark this date in your calendar and we look forward to seeing many of you there.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support. If you have any questions regarding the upcoming events please do not hesitate to contact Mr S Mason smason@boteler.org.uk

UNDERSTANDING THE CURRICULUM PARENT FORUM

13TH FEBRUARY 18:00 - 19:00
IN THE SCHOOL HALL

This session will focus on providing parents/carers with a deeper understanding of the curriculum, including what your child is learning and how best to support them.



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

This week as part of Collective Worship, students are exploring our Christian value for this term 'Endurance'. In our 'Inspire' assemblies, we discussed the joy that follows times of endurance by looking at the example of Sir Nicholas Winton who rescued over 700 children from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia. Our scripture for this week is from Galatians 3:28 and it reminds us that we are all equal to God:

"There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."

Spiritual Pause: Think about who or what you see as equal to you? Do we treat everyone with care and respect regardless of who they are? Reflect this week on what we can do to support each other.



Baptism and Confirmation: We have the opportunity to partake in these special events if you haven't already done so. Students who may have missed their confirmation or wish to be baptised are invited to see Mrs Hoey in school as soon as possible to register their interest, with parental consent. If you have any questions please contact Mrs Hoey (ehoey@boteler.org.uk).

Please keep up to date with our weekly prayer and scripture via social media.

SUBJECT NEWS

English Department

I am thrilled to announce that Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School will be taking part in the Poetry by Heart Competition 2025.

ALL staff and students are welcome to attend and take part. I can't wait to see what you come up with!

You simply just need to choose a poem already written and published, learn it by heart and record a copy of this to be entered into the competition. I will handle all of the logistics/recording.

Sessions will be held on Thursday lunchtimes in Room 22

Thursday lunchtimes in R22 with Miss Sixsmith.

ALL students and staff welcome to enter!

POETRY BY HEART

Choose poems
Find a poem to learn from any of our timeline and showcase collections

Learn poems by heart
With tips on how to memorise poems and how to polish them for performance

Perform poems out loud
Share your poems aloud in a class, club or event of any shape or size, at school or college

Enter the national competition
Do it your way - either the 1-poem Freestyle celebration or the 2-poem Classic championship

Come to the Grand Finale
Classic finalists and the best Freestylers perform on stage at Shakespeare's Globe, London - with guest tickets for schools taking part

Everything you need is here
Videos of past finalists, hundreds of classic and contemporary poems, and pupil and teacher competition guides

Why do it?

- It's seriously good fun
- Boost your confidence
- Practise your speaking and/or performance skills
- Spend time with friends or make new ones
- Enjoy and explore great poems
- Develop your memory skills
- Learn how poems work
- Certificate
- Try something new/different
- Sense of pride/achievement
- Chance of performing at Shakespeare's Globe, London on 7th July 2025

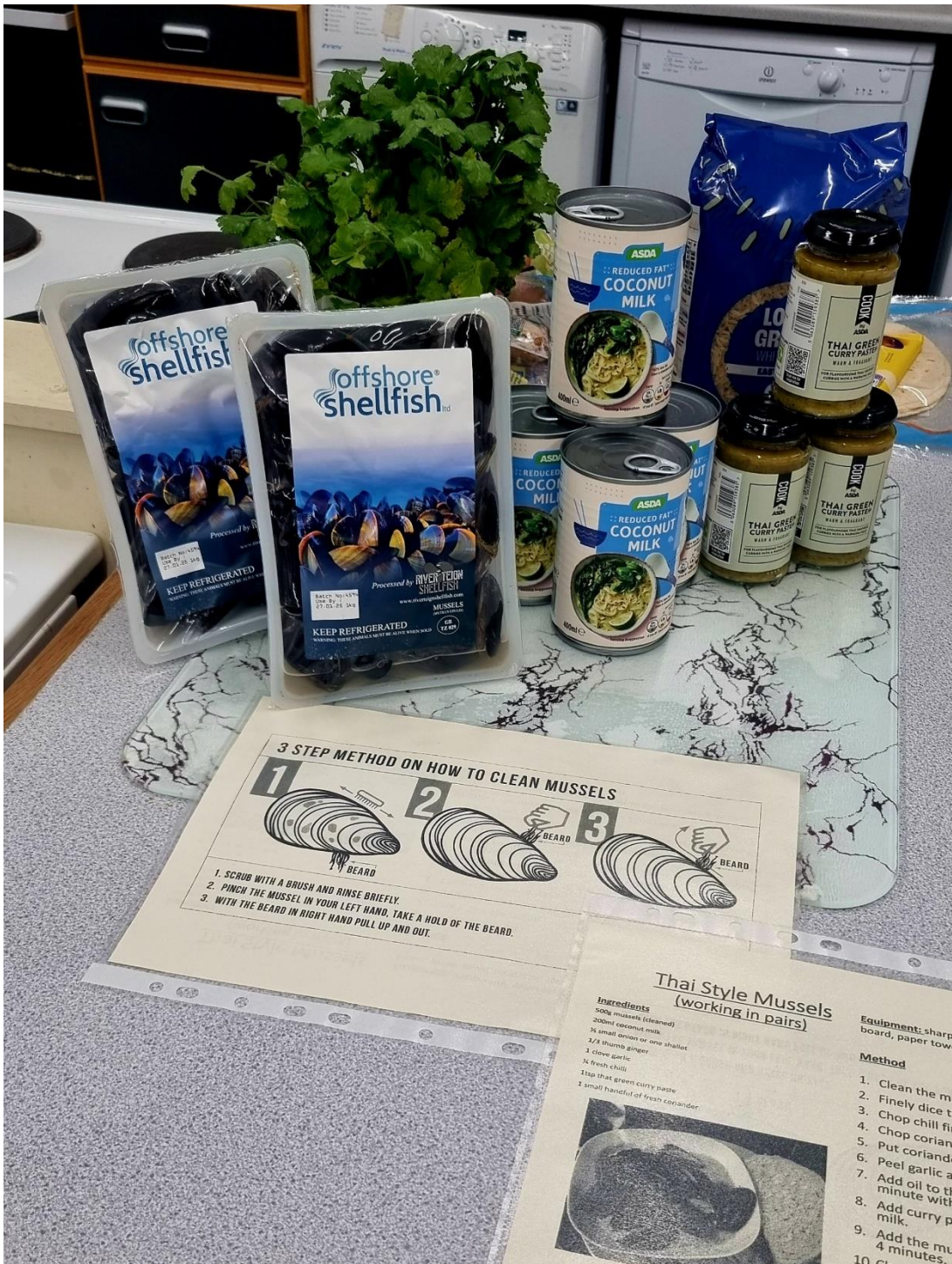
POETRY BY HEART

Food Technology

The food room smelled amazing during our Year 9 Options Evening. Mrs Callaway managed to source a fantastic catch of mussels, which were cooked in a Thai Green recipe by our Hospitality & Catering Students. Parents, carers & students enjoyed experiencing tasting this unusual ingredient.

We're one of 250 schools to be lucky enough to receive some of the 1,000KG of rope-grown mussels which were donated by @OffshoreShell, packed by @RTShellfish & delivered by @dfdsgroup - thank you, what a partnership!

All made possible by #FishHeroes - @FoodTCentre @FishmongerCo



WVR College Young Artist of the Year

Calling all of our Year 10 & 11 artists! The WVR College Young Artist of the Year submissions are now open! There are two categories, Creative and Digital, so whether you create on paper or tablet, you can enter!

If you would like to enter, or would like more information, please see Mrs Guttridge at break or lunch, or email jguttridge@boteler.org.uk



 **Warrington
& Vale Royal
College**

 **Advanced
Creative & Digital
Skills Academy**

Showcase your artwork in our exhibition

YOUNG ARTIST OF THE YEAR 2025

Enter either the **Creative Artist** or **Digital Artist** category for a chance to win an exclusive prize worth **£65** and be crowned the next Young Artist of the Year!

Open to year 10 and 11 pupils. Entries can be in any form of media so long as you show us your artistic flare!

We would love to see photography, digital art, paintings, arts and crafts, textiles, fine art or fashion.

Your artwork will be displayed at the Young Artist of the Year exhibition and award ceremony on **Thursday 20th March 2025**.

Entry Deadline: Friday 28th February 2025

For more information or to enter your artwork, visit:
wvr.ac.uk/young-artist

Sponsored by:
**abacus
creative
resources**



All entries submitted must be your own original artwork. AI-generated art and GCSE work will not be accepted.

PE Extra-curricular timetable

A reminder that all of the new clubs are up and running for the new Sport and Performance wider curricular timetable. If you have any questions, please speak to Mr Johnson in PE!

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LUNCH	FOOTBALL (YEAR 7 AND 8 ONLY)- BALL HALL BTEC SPORT COURSEWORK (YEAR 10-11)- ROOM 29	FOOTBALL (YEAR 9 ONLY)- BALL HALL TABLE TENNIS CLUB (ALL YEARS) – BALL HALL DANCE CLUB (ALL YEARS)- GYM	FOOTBALL (YEAR 10)- BALL HALL TRAMPOLINING (ALL YEARS)- BALL HALL BOTELER STAGE CRAFT REHEARSALS (YEAR 7-10)- DRAMA STUDIO	FOOTBALL (YEAR 9 AND 10 ONLY)- BALL HALL DANCE CLUB (GIRLS)- GYM DANCE CLUB (BOYS)- DRAMA STUDIO	FOOTBALL (YEAR 7 AND 8 ONLY)- BALL HALL
AFTER SCHOOL		JUNIOR WEIGHTS CLUB (YEAR 7-10)- SCHOOL GYM BADMINTON CLUB (ALL YEARS) – BALL HALL	GIRLS NETBALL FIXTURES (ALL YEARS)- BALL HALL FIGHTING FIT BOXING (YEAR 7-10)- NEW GYM BOTELER STAGE CRAFT REHEARSALS WEEK 1 ONLY (YEAR 7-10)- DRAMA STUDIO BOTELER STAGE CRAFT ART CLUB PROP DESIGN WEEK 2 ONLY (YEARS 7-10)- ART ROOMS	RUGBY FIXTURES AND TRAINING (ALL YEARS)-FIELD GIRLS NETBALL TRAINING (ALL YEARS- BALL HALL) DANCE CLUB (ALL YEARS)- GYM VOLLEYBALL (ALL YEARS)- BALL HALL BTEC SPORT COURSEWORK (YEAR 10-11)- ROOM 29	

Academy Sports+ and KS4 Sport Science Student and Parent Webinar

There is a fantastic and insightful event for the parents of Academy Sport+ athletes and students who study Sport Science. Dr. Guy Hindle's expertise in sports psychology will surely provide valuable guidance on how Parents and Carers can best support their child(ren) and athlete.

Here's a brief summary of the event details for Monday 27th January:

Event Details: **Parents: "I can't do right for doing wrong!"**

- Date: Monday, 27th January
- Time: 19:00-20:00
- Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/92323326186>
- Purpose: To help parents of elite athletes understand how to support their children pre, during, and post-event.

Themes to be covered:

1. Pre-Event Support:
 - Understanding personality types and anxiety responses.
 - Recognizing that children may have different needs than their parents.
2. Key Messages:
 - Aligning with the coach's messages.
 - Ensuring messages are brief and clear.
 - Balancing roles as a coach and a parent.
3. Dealing with Competitive Anxiety:
 - Providing tools to manage physiological, cognitive, and behavioural anxiety.
4. During the Event:
 - Avoiding shouting and focusing on agreed details and data.
5. Post-Event:
 - Conducting a "Hot debrief" to manage emotions.
 - Ensuring the post-event period is restorative.

We hope you can attend! (virtually, please see the link above).



Registered Charity 1110734



CommunityFoundation



WARRINGTON
Borough Council

EVERY BODY COUNTS

SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES IN WARRINGTON

We provide help and advice for you and your family on...

➔ **Mental wellbeing**

➔ **Nutrition**

➔ **Physical activity**

Every Body Counts

A free programme for children and young people aged 5-16 years* (up to 25 years with special educational needs) and their families. Our programme will help family members make better informed lifestyle choices leading to positive health gains including physical activity, mental wellness and nutrition. Our approach is compassionate and inclusive where our families will feel supported, their needs understood and coached for long term behavioural change.

SCAN BELOW FOR
FURTHER INFORMATION



BE THE CHANGE

#BeTheChange

@WWRLFoundation wolvesfoundation

warringtonwolvesfoundation warrington-wolves-community-foundation

T 01925 248894 E community@warringtonwolvesfoundation.com
www.warringtonwolvesfoundation.com



**SIR THOMAS
BOTELER**
CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL
THROUGH GOD, WE CARE

LGBTQ



INFORMATION

LGBTQ+ COUNCIL ★ WEEK 1 FRIDAY LUNCHTIMES ★ ROOM 26

LGBTQ+, QUESTIONING OR AN ALLY - HOWEVER YOU IDENTIFY, EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

NEED TO TALK? MEMBERS OF STAFF YOU CAN SPEAK TO:



**LGBTQ+ COUNCIL LEAD
& GRAPHIC DESIGNER**

MISS ROBERTS



**LEADER OF PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT
& TEACHER OF MUSIC**

MRS BUTCHER



**SAFEGUARDING OFFICER
& ASSOCIATE DEPUTY HEADTEACHER**

MR LEONARD



**VISIT THE PROUD TRUST WEBSITE FOR ADVICE,
INFORMATION & DETAILS OF LOCAL GROUPS:**

WWW.THEPROUDTRUST.ORG

**YOU CAN ALSO TALK TO ANY TEACHER,
TEACHING ASSISTANT, SUPPORT STAFF - EVERY
SINGLE MEMBER OF STAFF IS HERE FOR YOU.**